



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ST
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/840,469	04/23/2001	Rodger Williams	2400-667	1931
27820	7590	12/22/2004	EXAMINER	
WITHROW & TERRANOVA, P.L.L.C. P.O. BOX 1287 CARY, NC 27512			SHAPIRO, JEFFERY A	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		3653		

DATE MAILED: 12/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/840,469	WILLIAMS ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Jeffrey A. Shapiro	3653	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 December 2004.
2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1,4-9,11-21 and 28-33 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1, 4-9, 11-21 and 28-33 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 4-9, 11-21 and 28-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coppola et al (US 6,360,138 B1) in view of Devine et al (US 6,763,376 B1) and further in view of Kohut et al (US 6,338,008 B1).

Coppola discloses a fuel dispensing system (10) with graphics display (72) and a browser (see col. 6, lines 66-67 and col. 7, lines 1-3.

Coppola does not expressly disclose, but Devine discloses an integrated customer interface system (200) with a single display controller (see "Frame NAT/Router) in figure 2. Note that Applicant's display controller is equivalent to the Frame NAT/Router, since it is taking the web information having a unique address and directing it to either of the browsers by a unique port ID. This is how this system must work.

Coppola does not expressly disclose, but Kohut discloses a fuel dispenser having two points of sale on opposing sides of the dispenser.

Both Coppola and Devine are considered to be analogous because Coppola describes a fuel dispenser with web browsers while Devine describes a single router which services multiple browsers.

Both Coppola and Kohut are analogous art because they both concern fuel dispensing.

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have used a single router to direct web information from an application with a particular address to one of several connected browsers with a unique port identifier on a fuel dispenser having two points of sale, and therefore two browsers.

The suggestion/reason would have been to connect multiple browsers through a single router to the internet/web, as one ordinarily skilled in the art would recognize from figure 2.

The suggestion/reason for using two points of sale on a single fuel dispenser would have been to increase throughput of the fuel station, as one ordinarily skilled in the art would recognize.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Coppola, Kohut and Devine in order to obtain the invention as described in Claims 1, 4-9, 11-21 and 28-33.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 12/13/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that there is no motivation to combine the references of Coppola, Devine and Kohut.

Applicant asserts that there is no explanation as to why connecting multiple browsers through a single router is desirable. However, as can be seen from figure 2 of Devine, it would have been clear to one ordinarily skilled in the art that a single frame router can be used to handle multiple browsers. One ordinarily skilled in the art would

have recognized from the illustration that a single router could be used with each browser or two or more browsers could be used with a single router. Therefore, it would have been logical to use a single router to handle multiple browsers so as to eliminate the extra routers. See also Devine, col. 10, lines 20-57, which describes at line 35 that multiple machines can be operated from the same server.

Each browser is presented on a display (see again figure 2) which is connected to the server through the router. The software to run the application resides on the server. Again, see Devine, col. 10, line 35. This is the same structure as Applicant's structure as illustrated in Applicant's figure 1, which shows server (36) and display controller (40). See also Devine, col. 10, lines 20-30, which describes that either a single server machine (called "vertical") can be used instead of multiple server machines ("horizontal").

Alternatively, one ordinarily skilled in the art would recognize that it would have been obvious to reside software for running an application on either the router itself, or on a remote server, or the display/machine (CPU). The motivation to use any of these schemes (vertical or horizontal) would have been to provide "scalability" of the web server. Regardless of where the application software resides, it must be controlled. Also, the router can be construed as the display controller. This situation is much the same as splitting a cable input for broadband cable through a router so as to provide broadband cable input to multiple machines/displays. Such structures having the application reside on a remote server or having the browser application run on a single router can be construed to be functional equivalents to each other. The router is the

display controller and controls the sending of information to and from the machine/display. This is how browser applications are run on multiple machines/displays through a single router, through horizontal server scalability, for example, as is well-known in the art.

Applicant's specification at p.7, lines 13-18 states that "the display controller runs browser applications for the respective browser displays (38) and ensures that requests for web content are associated with the proper browser display, if necessary, and directs web content to the proper browser display (38) upon receipt from the server (36)."

Applicant's specification at p.7, lines 23-27 indicate that "the server (36) typically runs a control application (36a) (see figure 4) and a web server application (36a) using the client-server model to control the display controller (40) and serve files that form web pages to the browser applications."

These two passages from Applicant's specification describe exactly the structure and functions of Devine's system, as has been described previously. Again, see figure 2 of Devine. Note also that the Frame router and the Frame NAT/Router can be construed as the display controller as well.

Applicant asserts that there is no motivation to combine Coppola and Devine. However, as described above, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have used Devine's teaching of using a router to split input/output from a single server to multiple displays. This is a logical step that one ordinarily skilled in the art

would recognize would save extra cost and complexity of using multiple routers (display controllers).

Kohut is simply used to obtain a teaching for using a fuel dispenser having two points of sale on Coppola's single fuel dispenser. The motivation to one ordinarily skilled in the art to do this is simply to increase throughput of the fuel station, as would have been logical for one ordinarily skilled to recognize given the Kohut's teaching.

Therefore, the rejection of Claims 1, 4-9, 11-21 and 28-33 are rejected.

Conclusion

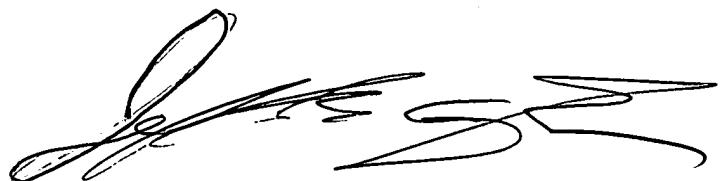
4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey A. Shapiro whose telephone number is (703)308-3423. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Donald P. Walsh can be reached on (703)306-4173. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jeffrey A. Shapiro
Examiner
Art Unit 3653

December 17, 2004



DONALD P. WALSH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600